

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A data file comprising a plurality of blocks of data may have two or more versions. The meaning of the data  
5 file is insensitive to the ordering of the blocks of data within the data file. Updates to the data file may be identified by providing each of said plurality of blocks of data with a first checksum and each of said versions of the data file with a second checksum of the said  
10 version of the data file as a whole. The second checksum of the first version of the data file is compared with the second checksum of the second version of the data file. If the comparison indicates that the second checksums of the first and second versions of the data  
15 file differ, then the first checksums of each of said plurality of blocks of data of the first and second versions of the data file are compared and an indication is provided of which of the plurality of blocks of data differs between the first and second versions of the data  
20 file.